Deaconess Hospital

Pulse

New England Deaconess Hospital
185 Pilgrim Road
Boston, Massachusetts 02215

May 1989

Preadmission testing improves nursing efficiency, patient comfort

A program which gives nurses greater autonomy and has improved efficiency and communication between doctors and nurses was put into place in August 1988—preadmission testing (PAT) of patients scheduled for same-day surgery (SDS) or post-operative admission (POA) surgery. Procedures performed as "same-day" surgery include cataract removal, cystoscopy, and tubal ligation. POA patients have more complex surgical procedures—such as gallbladder removal or thyroid removal—which require a brief hospital stay after their completion.

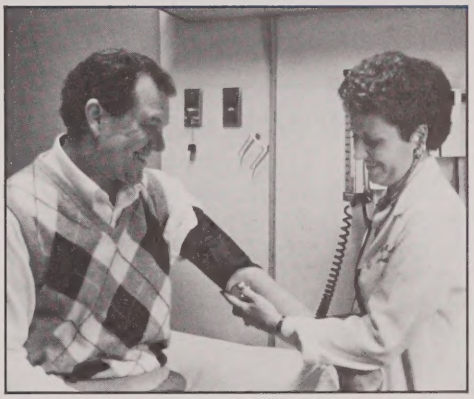
The preadmission appointment takes place up to 21 days before the surgery date. The patient first is interviewed in the admitting area and then is escorted by the PAT coordinator to the appropriate areas for blood work, chest x-ray, and EKG. The next stop is the PAT clinic on Baker 3, (temporarily relocated to Palmer 5) where a nurse prepares the patient for a history and physical, after which an Anaesthesia staff member meets with the patient. A nursing assessment is performed and the nurse begins both pre- and post-operative teaching.

Next, the PAT staff and the anesthesiologist evaluate the test results and create the patient chart. If any abnormalities are picked up during the review process, necessary follow-up tests are scheduled. For example, if the PAT nurses find the patient has an abnormal EKG, they may suggest a cardiac consult and obtain orders from the physician. The patient can return for the appropriate tests within the days remaining before surgery. After all tests are complete, the anesthesiologist "clears the chart for surgery," and the patient just has to appear on the scheduled day.

Every afternoon, PAT nurses bring the charts of same-day surgery and POA patients scheduled on the following day to the SDS unit on Farr 5, and each chart is reviewed and discussed. The SDS nurses then will call patients at home to remind them of their surgery time and where to report. The nurses also use the calls to give pre-operative instructions and reinforce any teaching given during preadmission visits.

The morning of surgery, patients report to outpatient registration, then to SDS where they are prepared for surgery. After a brief assessment performed by a nurse and any pre-op reminders, the patients are ready for the operating room. Once the patient arrives in the SDS unit, the process takes anywhere from seven to ten minutes. Because all necessary tests have been anticipated and results are in the chart, last-minute medical problems are avoided, and OR delays are reduced.

Following surgery, a POA patient goes to the post-anesthesia care unit, and then to an assigned bed on a nursing floor. A same-day patient returns to the SDS unit to recuperate and receive any discharge instructions. A family member of the patient, who has been given a "beeper" by SDS staff, is notified when the patient is ready to go home. The day after discharge, an SDS nurse calls the patient to check on any post-operative reactions such as nausea, pain, or vomiting.



Judi Schoenberg, R.N., PAT clinic nurse, checks patient George Simmons' blood pressure during his preadmission visit. Preadmission testing helps patients feel less anxious about surgery and avoids delays on the day of a procedure.

"In the PAT clinic, there is close collaboration between nurses and physicians, and there is a real cohesiveness and sense of teamwork," says Jayne Sheehan, R.N., nurse manager of the preadmission clinic and same-day surgery unit. "The PAT process gives nurses the opportunity to coordinate a patient's admission, oversee the testing, and suggest follow-up. We've had a lot of positive feedback from patients, too. They feel more comfortable when they come in for surgery, because they know all the nurses they'll be dealing with. They love the personal attention they get, particularly the phone calls at home before and after surgery. The continuity in communication provided by the PAT process is a real plus for the patient and for the healthcare team."

Pulse deadlines

Deadlines for *Pulse* submissions for coming issues are as follows:

June issue — **May 8**

July/August issue — **June 14**

Please send all submissions to Public Relations, Harris Hall 2, or call 2-8046.

New employee blood donor program begins

Get into the team spirit and participate in your area's blood drive. Starting in May, the blood donor program will conduct blood drives within different areas of the Deaconess community. Some of the designated blood drive areas include Harris Hall, LMOB, Deaconess and Farr nursing floors, Meissner, CRI, and Joslin.

Each week a new area will be the focus of the drive. Designated coordinators will notify employees of upcoming blood drives and will post sign-up sheets.

This month's blood donor recruitment areas are:

May 1-7:	**Farr 11**
May 8-14:	**Farr 10**
May 15-21:	**Farr 9**
May 22-28:	**Farr 8**

Jan Ronfeld, blood donor recruiter, will meet with area employees to answer questions and encourage them to sign up.

"It is important that all healthy employees participate in the hospital blood donor program," says Ronfeld. "We are dependent on the support of the staff—as well as friends and families of patients—to provide Deaconess patients with this much needed resource."

As usual, donors will be treated to cookies and juice when donating a pint of blood and will be given free tokens of appreciation—such as coffee mugs, key chains, or T-shirts. Each month, upcoming blood drives and the previous month's results will be listed in *Pulse*. So, be on the lookout for your section's opportunity to participate!

The blood donor room hours are Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 1 to 4 p.m. For more information, call 2-9085.

Blood Bank phlebotomist Brian Morris takes a donation from Joan Lilgander, Surgical Services. Employee donors are an essential part of the hospital's volunteer blood donor program.

May service awards

Congratulations to the following employees who celebrate their service anniversaries in May:

30 Years

Mary Hennessey, Patient Accounts

20 Years

Rose-Marie Salah, Pathology
Charles Trey, M.D., Department of Medicine

15 Years

Addie Pack-Jordan, Dietary—Coffee Shop
Sandra Sullivan, Administration

10 Years

Annie Williams, Nursing
Zetta Walker, Nursing
Barbara Bennett, Nursing
Joanne DeFelice, R.N., Nursing
Jill Early, R.N., Nursing
Michael Katz, R.N., Nursing

5 Years

Pamela DiCapua Crosby, Engineering and Maintenance
Michelle Monty, Pathology
Miguel Ortiz, Administrative Services
Gratia Chase, Ambulatory Surgery
Maria Pavon, ECG—Cardiology
Barbara Coyne, R.N., Nursing
Jill Cashman, R.N., Nursing
Laura Ortiz, R.N., Nursing

(This list was provided by Human Resources.)

Nurse Recognition Week Activities

The first week in May is "Nurse Recognition Week" at the Deaconess and throughout the United States. To acknowledge the important role of Nursing and the many contributions made by Deaconess nurses, a series of activities has been organized by the nurse recognition committee, made up of 12 representatives from the Department of Nursing. Nurse Recognition Week activities include the following:

- **"Center for Nursing Research: Update on Deaconess Nursing Activities,"** Tuesday, May 2, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. in Joslin Auditorium. Janice Bell Meisenhelder, D.N.Sc., R.N., will present a review of the year's activities and an overview of current nursing research studies. This presentation emphasizes the growing number of Deaconess nurses involved in creative and clinically relevant scholarly activity.
- **Keynote address by Lieutenant Governor Evelyn Murphy** on Thursday, May 4, 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. in Joslin Auditorium. Murphy will discuss the relation of politics to healthcare and implications for the future. Nurses from other Boston teaching hospitals also are invited.
- **Reception** on Thursday, May 4, 4 to 6:30 p.m. in the Longwood Galleria reception area (beyond the shops) to honor Deaconess nurses. Those nurses who have received an advanced college degree or certification from the American Nurses Association in a specific field—such as critical care nursing, medical/surgical nursing, or psychiatric nursing—will be individually acknowledged. Tickets are available through nurse managers and staff development.
- **A photo display** in the cafeteria, coordinated by Marion Longo, M.S., R.N., psychiatric clinical nurse specialist, will feature nurses involved in a variety of activities, from the People Appreciating Clinical Excellence (PACE) program in December to administrative and staff nurses participating in hospital events. The exhibit will highlight the 68 nurses who serve as preceptors to new staff nurses, helping them to adjust more rapidly to their patient care role.
- In addition, nurses managers are planning individual, unit-based activities to celebrate nurse recognition week. Evening and night staff will be recognized with a reception planned especially for them.

Transition system will be powerful tool for planning hospital's future

How much money does the Deaconess spend on the average patient admitted for a cardiac catheterization? What happens to the hospital's bottom line when more or fewer patients are admitted for vascular surgery? Answering these sorts of questions has become very important in today's health care environment.

Over the past few years Fiscal Services has been developing a tool that brings together data from many sources to reveal the true costs of the clinical services the Deaconess provides. This tool—the Transition system—provides information that management will need to make major decisions about the hospital's direction in coming years.

Basically Transition is a very sophisticated computerized database system. It brings together information from many sources and allows its users to combine that information in any number of ways. "One of the most painstaking parts of Transition is developing a standard cost for a particular service," says Tom Gheringhelli, manager of cost accounting, who coordinates the implementation of Transition. "The system integrates all the factors involved in a particular procedure, test, or patient day—the equipment, supplies, overhead, and labor costs. We look at what costs are fixed and what are variable, look at the time taken to perform the procedure, and come up with a standard cost."

Once the cost of a particular procedure is known, the cost for a particular DRG (diagnosis-related group) can be determined by combining all the procedures typical to that DRG. And the costs of an entire service—such as cardiology or general surgery—can be analyzed by combining all the DRGs in the service.

"Transition pulls together both financial and non-financial information for the first time," says Gheringhelli. "And as a result, we incorporate data provided by Accounting, Budgeting, Medical Records, Patient Accounts, Quality Assurance, Reimbursement, and Information Systems. The quality of the data Transition generates depends on the quality of information entered into the system."

With so much information to work with, Transition can generate very complicated reports. It can look at costs for a particular patient or procedure, a service, a clinical division, or the hospital as a whole. The reports have many uses. Department managers can find the impact of changes in patient volume or mix on their expense budgets. For example, a laboratory may be over budget because orders for a particular test have increased. Physicians can compare the tests they order and costs they generate to the averages for patients in a particular DRG and see the financial impact of their clinical decisions.

"Transition will allow us to quantify the impact of unanticipated utilization shifts, changes in the marketplace, or cost increases on the hospital's budgets. It can identify an individual patient whose length of stay (LOS) might have been out of line and find out whether there are any particular factors in common among high-LOS patients, for example, whether a significant number of them were transferred from community hospitals," Gheringhelli says.

When fully seasoned, Transition will be used to pinpoint areas where problems develop and simulate the effect of possible solutions—either administrative or clinical. It can reveal services that are particularly profitable as well, areas that may be expanded or used as examples of successful techniques.

Gheringhelli says, "Because Transition is so powerful, we are proceeding slowly with its utilization. It takes time for people to understand and become familiar with the impact of the system, and we will work closely with departments to help them use the data most appropriately. If it is used properly, Transition can be the tool that will support management's strategies and decisions into the 1990s."

New appointments

Liz Arsenault has joined the staff of Deaconess Home Health Care Corporation (DHHCC) as an administrative secretary. She previously worked in Dietetics.

Richard Baptista, M.S., R.Ph., has been elected president of Deaconess Home Health Care Corp.; he previously was general manager of the subsidiary.

Robert Conway has joined DHHCC as a clinical service specialist. He comes to the Deaconess with a background in high-technology home care.

David Holland has joined DHHCC as a pharmacy technician/delivery representative. He previously was employed as a pharmacy technician at the Lahey Clinic.

David Lilley, senior vice president for Operations, also has been elected president of Riverbrook Corporation, which manages the NEDH Corp.'s non-hospital real estate, and president of Deaconess Surgicenter Corporation.

Joyce Tower, formerly vice president for Operations, has been appointed a senior vice president. Her responsibilities will concentrate in clinical areas with a large ambulatory component.

Cake and celebrations were the order of the day on April 7. Fiscal Services and Purchasing hosted their fellow employees at the second annual "99 Day." Maria Mastrangelo, manager of budgeting (left), cuts the homemade cake that topped off the buffet lunch. Back at the hospital, National Hospital Admitting Week was being celebrated. Along with Noreen Hurley, director of Patient Registration (above right), are Shirlane Reason, senior admitter, and Paul Fordham, supervisor of outpatient registration.

MacLure honored at service awards reception

"There have been a lot of changes at the Deaconess in the past 14 years, but one thing has remained unchanged: your commitment to quality patient care," said Laurens MacLure, hospital president, to employees attending the annual service awards reception on April 13. "I'm proud to have been your chief executive officer, and I'm proud to have worked with you."

MacLure found himself one of the evening's guests of honor, receiving several unexpected gifts in recognition of his impending retirement—including a special Award of Merit (usually presented to employees with 25 years of service), a silver bowl, and a floating giraffe for his new pool. In bringing greetings from the hospital's trustees, Colby Hewitt Jr., chairman of the board also acknowledged MacLure's leadership during his tenure as president. "Laurie will be leaving behind a superb team that he helped to build—with a core of dedicated and committed employees."

About 500 employees, the largest group ever, attended this year's event at the Children's Museum. Richard Lee, executive vice president presented merit awards to those who completed 25 years of service (see below) and introduced a light-hearted videotape featuring several Deaconess employees, produced by Media Services.

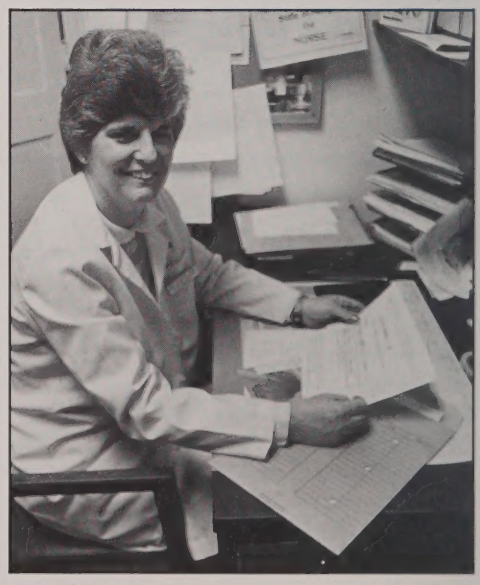
The last of the evening's planned events, before everyone headed for the dance floor, was the awarding of door prizes. A Museum of Science membership went to Bonnie Polan, daughter of merit award recipient Gloria Polan; a floating holiday to Marie Bassett, clinical pathology; dinner for two at Dover Sea Grille to Claudia Cabral, formerly of the hematology lab; and a week of free parking on the ground floor of the Pilgrim Road garage to Helena Fonseca, external affairs.

At the service awards reception, Alice Caputo, operating room technician (right), listens to coworker Cindy Green read a poem she wrote in honor of Caputo's 25 years of service.

Merit award recipients

"We process everything that needs to be sterilized for patient or staff use throughout the hospital. Years ago we did lots of small items—sponges, syringes, urine bottles—that were cleaned by hand and reused. Now these items are disposable; we have machines to sterilize and decontaminate larger equipment. It is much safer for everyone." Fabio Alvarino, supervisor, central processing.

"My job is a lot more technical than it used to be. We have a lot more equipment and do bigger, more complex procedures, like liver transplants. But my love for the job hasn't changed. I wouldn't want to be doing anything else." Alice Caputo, operating room technician.



"The Deaconess has kept pace with changes in technology over the years. The other employees are great to work with, and you see a wide variety of patients from all over. I came to school at the Deaconess because it had a great reputation then, and I think it's lived up to that reputation." Beverly Green, R.N., coordinator, intravenous therapy.

"I've made some of my best friends here at the Deaconess. There's been so much growth—from about 600 employees to 3,000—but there's still the same spirit of camaraderie and the same dedication to the best in patient care." Gail Graham, manager of Administrative Services.

Obesity is a real health risk

Obesity is a health hazard of epidemic proportions in most developed countries. Estimates reveal that about 50 percent of adults in this country have a weight problem and that the prevalence of obesity is on the rise.

Obesity contributes to 15 to 20 percent of the annual U.S. mortality rate. It is recognized as a major risk factor for diseases of the cardiovascular system and may be linked to cancer of the colon, rectum, gall bladder, breast, and uterus. Some researchers claim that if obesity were eliminated, the average life span could increase by as many as seven years.

The best way to determine whether a person is obese is to measure body composition—the percentage of body weight which is fat and that which is muscle or lean tissue. Once the fat percentage is known, ideal body weight can be calculated based on the ideal percent of fat for the person's particular age group.

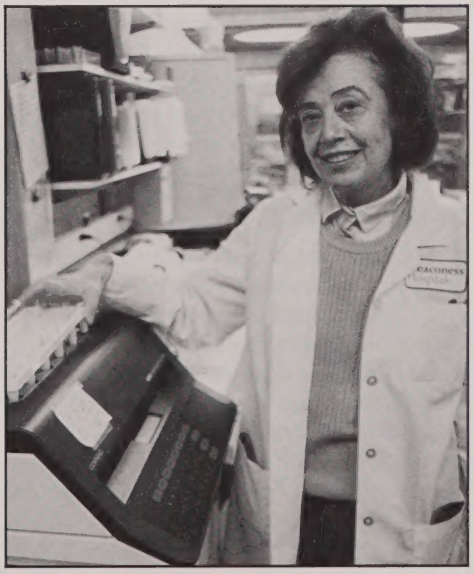
Many people refer to height/weight charts to find out what their ideal body weight should be. But this method can be highly inaccurate since it doesn't take into account the percentage of fat in a person's body. For example, an athlete may weigh more than average for his or her height; however, the body composition may contain very little fat. Therefore, the athlete is not at a health risk despite the bulk.

At the opposite end of the spectrum, a person who appears to be underweight may have a high body fat content. This most frequently occurs among sedentary people and those who are constantly dieting because physical inactivity and negative caloric balance lead to a loss in lean body tissue. Through these examples, the importance of body composition—as opposed to mere body weight—in determining obesity becomes clear.

To help employees learn more about their weight and body composition, the Employee Health Clinic will offer body composition testing on Wednesday, May 17, by appointment only. Appointments can be made by through the Employee Health Clinic starting May 1. Body composition will be analyzed using the RJL computerized bioelectrical analyzer system. For more information and to schedule an appointment, contact the Employee Health Clinic (2-8157).

"After the first five years, you don't realize how fast time passes. I enjoy the variety of work at the Deaconess. I started in a small hospital, and there is quite a difference here. The biggest change has been the use of computers for ordering tests and reporting results. We used to write everything out by hand and double-check. The computers made a big change for the better."
Baiba Ozols, medical technologist, Chemistry.

"I've always enjoyed being a nurse, working with people who are ill to try and make them more comfortable. I've had other opportunities, but I never felt I had another calling. The patients are always very appreciative of my work, even when I have to cause them pain. I think the Deaconess is a wonderful place."
Marja Warakois, R.N., intravenous therapy.



"I'm very grateful to all my friends in the lab for the support they've given me over the years; the Chem lab has been like my home. The work has been challenging, and I've watched things change and grow. But we still do some of the bench tests I learned 20 years ago for reference purposes, and I still enjoy doing them." Gloria Polan, medical technologist, Chemistry.

May AIDS Grand Rounds

The next employee grand rounds on AIDS will take place on Wednesday, May 24, from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. in Joslin Auditorium. The program will feature a discussion of some practical concerns relating to AIDS—such as legal rights, financial issues, and available community resources. The session will conclude with a brief question-and-answer period. All employees are encouraged to attend.

SON graduation to be held May 11

The 91st and final graduation ceremony of the New England Deaconess Hospital School of Nursing will be held Thursday, May 11, at 8 p.m. at Temple Israel. Rabbi Harold Kushner of Newton, author of *When Bad Things Happen to Good People*, will be the principal speaker. Blake Cady, M.D., will bring greetings from the medical staff and Susan Moores will deliver the message from the graduating class. Baccalaureate and pinning will be held at 2 p.m. at Marsh Chapel, Boston University. Sister Clare Hayes, Pastoral Care, will be the principal speaker.

Learn the facts about skin cancer

A skin cancer screening clinic will be held on Wednesday, May 24, from 6 to 8:30 p.m. The program will feature dermatology exams and information sessions about the relation between skin cancer and exposure to the sun. The free clinic is open to the public, and pre-registration is required. Watch the Farr lobby for registration information.

Celebrate at the annual Gallon Donor Party

This year's annual Gallon Donor Party will be held on Thursday, May 4, from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the Harris Hall Living Room. The luncheon will honor individuals who have donated one or more gallons of blood at the Deaconess blood bank. Certificates and gifts will be presented. For more information, call the Blood Donor Room (2-9085).

Baker 3 clinical areas temporarily relocate

The Baker 3 clinical areas—including the Employee Health Clinic, the Student Health Clinic, CRS Medical Clinic, and the Preadmission Testing Clinic—have relocated temporarily to Palmer 5. Phone extensions remain the same.

Cashiers office extends hours for purchases

The cashiers office on Farr 1 has extended its hours for purchase of MBTA passes, movie tickets, and City coupon books. The new hours are from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. As always, MBTA passes are available only on the last four business days of each month, and employees must present their Deaconess I.D. badges in order to obtain a pass. For more information, contact Mary Hennessey (2-8119).

News from the Benefits Office

The Benefits Office has announced **a rate increase to 8.85 percent on all Deaconess 401(k) and 403(b) contracts with UNUM, effective since April 1.** This interest rate is guaranteed through 1989. In addition to UNUM, the plan also sponsors a variety of mutual fund options with differing investment objectives. For more information, call Linda Vynorius (2-8150).

Buying a new car?

The Alpha Credit Union can help. Be sure to watch for posters detailing the credit union's spring auto loan special. For more information call the Alpha Credit Union (2-8164).

Patient care technicians graduate

Congratulations to the following employees who recently were certified as patient care technicians: **Patricia A. Black,** Farr 8; **Valerie Gail Cooper,** Triage; **Maritza Gonzalez,** Farr 9; **Eileen F. Martini,** Farr 10; **Angelie M. Murphy,** Farr 11; **Tracey J. Pease,** Farr 7; **Donna E. Richardson,** Palmer 4; **Gisele Ventura,** Palmer 3; **Alice M. Walker,** Farr 10; and **Rosetta M. Weekes,** MICU.

In memoriam

The Deaconess community recently learned of the deaths of **Leo V. Hand, M.D.** and **George Nichols Jr., M.D.** Hand joined the Deaconess staff in 1936 and was chief of Anaesthesia from 1952 until his retirement in 1975. Nichols was director of the Cancer Research Institute from 1969 to 1973.

NCC hunting for healthy men

The Nutrition Coordinating Center is recruiting men ages 20 to 50 for a study evaluating the effects of diet and fish oil. Participants will learn their cholesterol level and receive nutrition counseling. To qualify, candidates must be non-smokers of ideal body weight and must not be taking medication. For more information call Marilyn Kowalchuk (2-9295).

Behavioral medicine reminds you . . .

The first Mind/Body Program for Women with PMS will start in May and run for nine weeks (ten sessions). For more information, contact Rene Goodale (2-9530).

Eyecare services available to LMA personnel

Due to a recent affiliation between MASCO subsidiary Longwood Shared Services, Inc., and Longwood Eye Care, Inc., convenient optometry and optical services now are available to employees, students, and family members associated with MASCO-member institutions. The eyecare center, located at 417 Brookline Avenue, offers comprehensive eye examinations and contact lens fittings, as well as a full line of fashion eyeglasses. Same-day prescription service is available at the on-site laboratory. Hours are Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information on special benefits offered to members of the MASCO community, call Longwood Eye Care, Inc. (735-0535).

Simmons establishes new Graduate School for Health Studies

Simmons College has announced the creation of a new, coeducational Graduate School For Health Studies. The school will bring together the college's established graduate programs in health care administration and nursing with its new master's in physical therapy program, providing new opportunities to respond to the critical need for highly-trained health care providers with both clinical and managerial skills. For more information or to apply, contact the Simmons Office of Graduate Studies (738-3127).

Recruitment update

During March, 53 new employees joined the Deaconess. Welcome to:

Mona Abraham, Nursing
Sherri Bacys, Nursing
Nancy Barros, Admitting
Oscar Bautista, Controller's Office
Anita Byron, Physician Financial Service
Courtney Chambers, Radiology
Esabella Chin, Pathology
Sandra Clermy, Dietetics
Karine Clermy-Frederique, Dietetics
Robert Conway, DHHCC
Sharon Coyle, Nutrition
Angela Cunningham, Dietetics
Davindranath Dookhan, Pharmacy
Nedra Dunning, Nursing
Norris Ellis, Patient Transport
Sharon Evans, Nursing
Krista Fechner, Research
Kelly Fink, Deaconess Medicine
Alexia Foster, Nursing
Carey Francis, Nursing
Karen Griffin, Deaconess Surgical Associates
Tara Hannon, Pathology
Arwa Haq, Pathology
Christina Hartshorn, Research
David Holland, DHHCC
Denice Horgan, Nursing
Jeanniton Jephte, Dietetics
Brenda Joseph, Medical Records
Jo Anne Keough, Nursing
William LaFarge, Social Service
Deborah Lawler, Nursing
Lynn Layne, Dietetics
Tracy Long, Research
Melinda Magee, Dietetics
Carol McCarthy, Medical East
Mary Rose McCullough, JCRT
Ralph Menard, Radiology
Ossefils Michel, Building Services
Ann Minihan, Vascular Research
Joan O'Neill, Nursing
Sheila Pearson, Pathology
Mary Pettyjohn, Medical Records
Michael Podymaitis, Materials Management
Diane Poulin, Nursing
Mary Ricks, Ambulatory Patient Financial Services
Linda Roberts, Deaconess Surgical Associates
Jean Simeon, Building Services
Elaine Trujillo, Clinical Dietetics
Herbert Wallace, Dietetics
Mareese Wideman, Dietetics
Rico Williams, Physician Financial Services
Kathryn Wilson, Deaconess Surgical Associates
Sharon Zimmerman, Deaconess Medicine

May teleconferences

The following teleconferences, open to all hospital employees, will be held during May:

Health care economics . . . clarified
- Uwe Reinhardt, Ph.D., James Madison Professor of Political Economy at Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, discusses the future of U.S. health care. **May 4, 1 p.m.**, sponsored by the American Hospital Association.

Ruminations, rituals, and recovery: the science and art of treating obsessive-compulsive disorders
- Designed for psychiatrists, family practitioners, psychologists, and other health care professionals interested in the clinical issues, educational developments, and state-of-the-art therapies for obsessive-compulsive disorder. **May 10, 4 p.m.**, sponsored by Hospital Satellite Network.

Swallowing disorders: assessment and treatment
- A response to the urgent need for current information on the therapist's role in assessment and treatment of patients with dysphagia. **May 16, 3-5 p.m.**, sponsored by American Rehabilitation Educational Network.

Innovations in vascular grafts
- A review of the process and clinical benefits of collagen-impregnated grafts as proven in animal studies, as well as antibiotic impregnation of the graft, endothelial seeding, and thrombogenicity. **May 18, 5 p.m.**, sponsored by Hospital Satellite Network.

All teleconferences will be held in Joslin Auditorium. For more information on these programs and on other May teleconferences, call Media Services (2-8125).

Volunteers like Thrift Shop workers (from left) Sybil Jadowitz, Bertha Ann DeLeon, Evelyn Makarewich, and Florence Gorman were featured in a Farr lobby photo display in honor of National Volunteer Week, April 9-15. The annual volunteer luncheon will be held in June.

AIDS Institute sponsors talk by NIAID director

Anthony Fauci, M.D.—director of the National Institute on Allergy and Infectious Disease and head of the Office of AIDS Research, National Institutes of Health—will discuss the immunopathogenesis of HIV infection in a program sponsored by the Harvard AIDS Institute. The program, open to the general public, will be held on Tuesday, May 23, at 4 p.m. in the Kresge Building, Harvard School of Public Health. For more information, call the Harvard AIDS Institute (2-1689).

Walkathon makes great strides toward a cure

Cystic fibrosis is the number one genetic killer of children and young adults in the U.S. On Sunday, May 21, the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, along with Ocean Spray and the Boston Athletic Club, will sponsor Great Strides, a statewide walkathon to raise money for cystic fibrosis research. The walk will take place at eleven different sites across Massachusetts. For more information, contact Terry Waite (1-800-362-4440).

Swim for Heart

The American Heart Association will hold its twelfth annual Swim for Heart at Bentley College on Sunday, May 7, from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Proceeds will benefit the American Heart Association's life-saving programs of cardiovascular research, professional and public education, and community service. For more information or to sign up, call Jennifer Pavia (449-5931, ext. 24).

NEWS IN BRIEF

J. Davis Allan Jr., M.D., infectious disease, was awarded the Ten Outstanding Young Leaders award for professional exellence by the Boston Jaycees.

Richard J. Baptista, M.S., R.Ph., president of Deaconess Home Health Care, spoke recently at a scientific conference on "Clinical nutrition in the critically ill." His presentation was entitled, "Troubleshooting hyperalimentation in the seriously ill patient."

Herbert Benson, M.D., chief of behavioral medicine, and **Gregg Jacobs, Ph.D.,** research fellow, behavioral medicine, received a grant from the Paul P. Dosberg Foundation for research on sleep-onset insomnia.

George L. Blackburn, M.D., chief of surgical nutrition, gave the keynote address on home parenteral nutrition at the World Congress on Home Care in Rome.

Ursula Brandt, Ph.D., behavioral medicine, presented a poster on the usefulness of mind/body groups for cancer patients at the Second International Symposium on Cancer and Alternative Medicine in St. Gallen, Switzerland. She also received a grant from the West German government to study coping strategies and the effects of dealing with cancer patients on physicians and nurses.

Henry Brown, M.D., surgeon, spoke at the annual symposium of the Society for Experimental Biology and Medicine.

Melvin Clouse, M.D., chairman of Radiology, presented a paper entitled "Percutaneous transhepatic common duct stone removal" to the Society of Cardiovascular and Interventional Radiology. He also moderated a scientific symposium on interventional radiology in the GI tract and conducted a workshop on interventional radiology in the biliary tract, and chemolysis of the gallstones in the gallbladder and biliary tree with methyl tertiary butyl ether.

Anne Cronin, R.N., nurse manager, Farr 11, spoke on "AIDS: psychosocial implications" to the nursing staff at McLean Hospital.

Alice Domar, Ph.D., behavioral medicine, gave a workshop entitled "The use of behavioral treatment for women with infertility" to the Society of Behavioral Medicine.

Jeffrey Dover, M.D., chief of dermatology, co-authored an article entitled "Palisaded encapsulated neuromas: a clinicopathologic study" in the *Archives of Dermatology.*

Valerie Gruber, R.N., B.S.N., staff nurse, Palmer 2, was recently certified in gerontology.

Judith Jorge-Leonard, R.N., B.S.N., staff nurse, Palmer 2, was recently certified in psychiatric nursing.

Karl J. Karlson, M.D., cardiothoracic surgeon, was elected a fellow of the American College of Cardiology at its recent annual meeting.

Keith P. Lewis, R.Ph., M.D., Anaesthesia, was awarded *Anesthesiology Review's* First Annual Resident Writers' Award for his paper, "Anesthetic implications in the patient receiving cancer chemotherapy."

Marion Longo, M.S., R.N., C.S., psychiatric clinical nurse specialist, spoke on "Employees' exposure to AIDS: how to make the employees feel the institution is protecting their interests" to New England Hospital Assembly, Massachusetts Society for Health Care Risk Management.

Francis P. Mitrano, M.S., R.Ph., director of operations, Deaconess Home Health Care Corporation, taught a course entitled "Home infusion therapy: a primer for pharmacists," at which he presented a lecture on "Design and operation of home care pharmacy facilities."

Ellison C. Pierce, Jr., M.D., chairman of Anaesthesia, was the course director for the Harvard Medical School continuing education program "Medical risk management for physicians."

Arturo Rolla, M.D., endocrinology, spoke to the Indiana Society of Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition on "Endocrine aspects of prolonged fasting."

Gordon Weir, M.D., chief of endocrinology, recently began a four-year term as an editor of the *Journal of Clinical Endocrinology and Metabolism.*

Deaconess Hospital

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